

# CHRB NEWS & REVIEW

NEWSLETTER OF THE CALIFORNIA HORSE RACING BOARD

SEPTEMBER, 2002

PUBLISHED QUARTERLY

ISSUE 26

## STATE & INDUSTRY DIRECT \$4 MILLION TO CHARITABLE CAUSES

### Health and Welfare Programs for Workers

Anyone who ever misplaced a winning ticket or refund slip for a canceled wager might find comfort in learning the money was put to good use.

Last year nearly \$2.6 million of this “unclaimed property” helped pay for health and welfare programs benefiting California racetrack workers and jockeys. This was in addition to \$600,000 that California racetracks and foundations distributed last year to racing-related charities through their Charity Racing Days (see companion article in this newsletter).

Backstretch health and welfare programs and racing-related charities also received more than \$500,000 from the Oak Tree Racing Association and its Charitable Foundation. And they received \$245,000 that California thoroughbred horsemen diverted from purses. Another \$100,000 is projected for health and welfare programs from new Advance Deposit Wagering (ADW) operations.

Altogether these sources provided nearly \$4 million last year for worthwhile causes within the horse-racing industry

(Continued on page 6)

### Charities in Racing and Communities

Charity begins at home, as they say, and charitable foundations and boards at California racetracks have been putting a new spin on that adage by donating record amounts to charities associated with the horse-racing industry.

Racing associations generated nearly \$1 million from special Charity Racing Days for worthwhile causes last year, and about 65 percent of that money stayed close to home by supporting organizations devoted to helping racetrack employees, injured jockeys, retired racehorses, and various other racing-related endeavors, including research projects designed to help the industry and its participants.

The bulk of that \$609,807 went to seven organizations. A major beneficiary was the California Thoroughbred Horsemen's Foundation (CTHF), which offers health care to the community of stable workers and their immediate families as well assistance with eyeglasses, financial aid, social programs, and free clothing. All six racetrack charitable foundations contributed to CTHF for a total of \$127,000.

(Continued on page 8)

## MESSAGE FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

**W**e established the News & Review seven years ago to help spread the word about the good things that State government and the industry are doing together to regulate and protect horse racing in California.

Articles have touched on security, medication, continuing education for stewards and CHRB investigators, new laws and regulations, licensing personnel, advance deposit wagering, and testing laboratories – among a long, long list of important topics.

This edition focuses on funds being provided for racing-related charities and for the health and welfare of racetrack workers, including jockeys. California is a leader when it comes to protecting people who participate in horse racing. This newsletter provides the facts and numbers that prove it.

And for balance, we've included some comments from a representative of the thoroughbred retirement community indicating that perhaps still more needs to be done – not just here in California but throughout the country.

News & Review is committed to illuminating programs, people, and activities in California horse racing that deserve recognition. Funding for charities and for health and welfare programs clearly is among them.

I want to acknowledge the efforts of our staff and representatives of the industry in preparing this newsletter. We should all be proud to be included in this great sport in this great State. We are truly blessed to have opportunities to share with those in need.

*Roy C. Wood, Jr.*  
Roy C. Wood, Jr.



## IN THE GOLDEN STATE

# CARING FOR RETIRED RACEHORSES

*This article was submitted by Priscilla Clark, president and director of Tranquility Farm, the non-profit Harry A. Biszantz Memorial Center for Thoroughbred Retirement, located in Tehachapi, California. She has been involved in thoroughbred retirement and adoptions since 1982 both as a private individual and as a director of non-profit organizations.*

There is a sincere groundswell of concern throughout the horse-racing industry for the problem of thoroughbred retirement.

The industry and the retirement programs that serve it are rapidly approaching a new world – a world without horse slaughter. With almost one voice, the racing community has come out on the correct side of this issue.

California has been on the cutting edge of opposition to horse slaughter since 1998, when industry and voter support for Proposition 6 made it a felony to transport horses for slaughter across our state line. Today, the “American Horse Slaughter Protection Act” (H.R.3781) and a companion Senate bill may soon drive the horsemeat trade from our shores, sparing our horses its cruelty and removing its stain from racing.

As we anticipate zero slaughter of thoroughbreds, it is timely to appreciate the many roles that retirement programs now play, and also to consider what they may be asked to achieve in the very near future. Many established programs carry a large retirement population of the aged and infirm. With today’s management techniques, equine retirees are living longer, and this group will no doubt continue to increase dramatically.

The majority of retirement programs operate their own facilities. Some, like Tranquility Farm, can accommodate up to 100 horses. It is essential that sizable adoption programs employ highly skilled personnel who are proficient in both rehabilitating racing injuries and in retraining racehorses to become safe and desirable pleasure mounts.

The high costs of feed, insurance, farm labor, and overhead must be managed by each organization, as there is no pool of donated goods or services widely available to

non-profits. It is time to dispel a pernicious myth that charities somehow float in rare air, protected from the overhead of commercial enterprises. Feed stores, veterinarians, and the like can scarcely care that their clients are not-for-profit entities. Tranquility Farm’s minimum annual budget of \$250,000 is frugal for the number of horses cared for, and would be typical of any retirement facility of a like size.

In spite of their high overheads and the multiple benefits to racing they provide, retirement organizations exist in a climate of complete financial uncertainty. Their only given is that they must collectively raise millions of dollars each year

## CALENDAR

### SEPTEMBER

- 25 – CHRB monthly meeting in Pomona.**
- 27 – Harness meet opens at Cal Expo.**

### OCTOBER

- 2 – Oak Tree meet opens at Santa Anita.**
- 2 – Fresno fair meet opens.**
- 10 – CHRB Race Dates meets in Fresno.**
- 17 – CHRB monthly meeting in Arcadia.**

### NOVEMBER

- 6 – Hollywood Park meet opens in Inglewood.**
- 6 – Golden Gate meet opens in Albany.**
- 21 – CHRB monthly meeting in Inglewood.**

to simply survive and care for their horses.

To address this problem, and to establish criteria for identifying legally constituted and effective programs that could guarantee wise use of industry investment, a summit of independent, non-profit retirement providers was called in September of 2000.

From this initial conference emerged TARA, the Thoroughbred Adoption and Retirement Association, which forged the first plan for the accreditation of retirement organizations. TARA members, like NTRA Charities Affiliates, must annually submit their corporate, financial, and adoption records for review by their respective Boards of impartial industry professionals.

The confusion that once existed over identifying retirement providers that function with professionalism and financial integrity is now a thing of the past. So, if the racing industry ever comes to the table with a plan to dedicate funding for thoroughbred retirement, the feast is laid.

To date the industry has been a no-show. In spite of much finger pointing and often emotionally charged debate to identify those responsible for footing the bill, no system has been put into place to reserve some portion of the vast monies generated by racing for the horses who make it all possible. The beleaguered thoroughbred owner has taken the brunt of the punishment, but since so many runners are in the claming ranks, assigning responsibility to them remains elusive at best.

Fasig-Tipton's Blue Horse Charities has taken an approach to the problem that shows great potential. Their premise is that responsibility for a horse's future retirement should be spread amongst all participating parties in the industry from the moment the gavel comes down. To aid in this process they create funding to subsidize adoptions by asking buyers to voluntarily donate a small percentage from the price of their sales purchases. Their reasoning, I believe, is correct, for from the moment of conception to the winner's circle, the thoroughbred is creating income for some segment of the industry.

Acknowledging this fact suggests that in fairness the burden should be assigned where the profits lie: breeders, sales, trainers, track management, bettors, owners, and, yes, the

State. With the accreditation process in place for retirement providers, the long-term welfare of the horses can be safely factored in as a reasonable cost of doing business. Considering the value that horses generate, a retirement fund should be created in the spirit of a tithe, not a tax.

Dedicating a portion from purses, handle, and claiming transactions should all be considered as potential resources for retirement funding. A mere 1-percent surcharge on claiming transactions would raise nearly \$500,000 in California alone. California's uncashed mutual tickets amount to over \$2 million annually, the majority of which is assigned by the State to the betterment of racing. Surely some funding for retirement programs would meet the criteria.

While increased Charity Racing Days contributions would be welcomed, it is important to remember that these are at present distributed at the discretion of their respective boards, and funding for retirement has to date been a low priority. Perhaps Charity Racing Days could be created solely for retirement funding, with attendant publicity promoting adoptions.

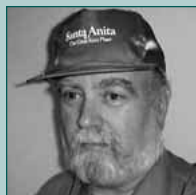
It is time to remove all doubt from a concerned public and retirement providers alike that adequate funding will exist to insure the well-being of the horses. Like the backstretch pension plan, an annual budget should be created, and it should reflect fairly reasoned contributions from all aspects of the industry. If racing asks retirement programs to shoulder an ever-increasing burden without finding an equitable solution to the funding problem, it does so at its own peril.



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California's racing rules.  
Call (800) 805-7223 to  
report any violations.***

***Articles and photographs  
appropriate for CHRB News &  
Review may be submitted to  
Mike Marten of the CHRB staff:  
12235 Beach Blvd., Suite 7  
Stanton, CA, 90680.  
(714) 890-7004,  
fax (714) 890-7006.***

# BE OUR GUEST...



***The California Horse Racing Board believes the best way to regulate an industry is to be fully informed. The CHRB regularly solicits input from the public and the horse-racing industry, and this guest editorial page is one more forum for that purpose.***

*This guest editorial was submitted by Rod Wentworth, a San Diego engineer who describes himself simply as a “lifelong race fan and student of the game.”*

The takeout from wagering pools largely funds horse-racing. How much takeout is too much?

Purse money determines how many owners can afford to keep sending horses to the track. Likewise, payoffs on winning wagers determine the number of bettors who can afford to regularly wager on races. Both groups invest and take risks hoping to make a profit or at least keep losses to a tolerable level.

Hardcore horseplayers know the game inside and out and follow it religiously. These true fans with a deep love of the game are essential to the survival of racing. There is a direct relationship between the takeout rate and the likelihood these players will run out of wagering cash.

Betting stables are just that. They know when their charges are at their best and invest accordingly. The return on these investments is proportional to the takeout rate and is important to the financial well-being of many owners, trainers, and stable workers.

Heavy hitters routinely wager thousands or tens of thousands a day. The takeout rate is extremely important to them.

Fans understand and enjoy racing. The most serious attend regularly and bet up to several thousand a year. The takeout rate influences their chances of winning, or at least not losing so much as to become discouraged. Less interested fans attend a few times a year, allocate a set amount to play with during visits, and usually expect to lose. This group is not likely to run out of cash since they don't make large wagers on a regular basis.

Pure gamblers will bet on anything—slots, cards, horses, lotto, and sports. The game doesn't matter. They are usually strapped for cash and not overly concerned with the takeout or chances of winning. They are just looking for that big score.

Consider this example of a \$100 win bet on a 6-1 horse. Variations in the distribution of wagers between betting interests, breakage, etc. make exact comparisons difficult, but this is fairly representative. For takeouts from 14 percent to 18 percent, the 6-1 odds vary between 6.40 and

6.10. This means a \$10 difference per 1-percent change for the \$100 wager. Using the \$10 difference for purposes of discussion, the impact on hardcore horseplayers is \$50 to \$100 per week or \$2,000 to \$5,000 per year.

Resulting diminished cash flow can put some players on the sidelines. Heavy hitters just might look elsewhere. Takeout determines which tracks (if any) they choose to play. For betting stables, smaller returns on winning wagers make it that much harder to cover expenses.

Takeout relief by several tracks in other states have been very well received by the betting public. To attract national players, California takeout needs to be comparable to other major tracks.

How can takeout rates be optimized to best meet the needs of the tracks, owners, trainers, stable employees, and the fans while also meeting racing's long-term needs? I am convinced that lower takeout is preferred in all cases. However, if the immediate need for cash must be met, the following compromise is suggested.

A distinction between tracks with signals with and without national appeal is needed. For major California tracks, reducing the win-place-show takeout to 15 percent would keep it close to the 14-percent NYRA rate and 15-percent rates at Hawthorne and Gulfstream. Reducing the takeout for exacta, quinella, and double wagers to 19 percent brings California close to the 16 percent at Keeneland, 17.5 percent for NYRA, 18.5 percent at Hawthorne, and 19 percent at most other major tracks across the country. The Pick 6 is a valuable marketing tool and should be left as is. For all other exotic wagers an increase of takeout to 23 percent would offset some of the other reductions and still keep California comparable with all except the Kentucky tracks.

The rates for minor California tracks could be set 2 or 3 percent higher for all wagers without impacting the national appeal of major California tracks. The players and atmosphere at minor meets are on a different scale, so smaller winning payoffs would have little impact on the industry as a whole.



# THE EQUINE PRESCRIPTION

FROM THE DESK OF THE CHRB  
EQUINE MEDICAL DIRECTOR



DR. RON JENSEN

Medication and drug testing always have evoked strong feelings and emotions in the racing community. Historically, there have been two opposing positions.

One group feels that racehorses should be completely free of medication when they are competing. Essentially, they argue that the only things horses should receive before a race are “hay, oats, and water.” Nothing else should show up in tests of post-race urine and blood samples.

The other group believes that racehorses should have the benefit of therapeutic medication while training and that “small” amounts may remain in the horse’s system long after their pharmacological effect is over. Therefore, these trace amounts should be allowed to be present in post-race samples at levels below the level of pharmacological effect.

Proponents of both positions are good and honorable people who firmly believe that their position is the correct one. It is only recently that these two medication philosophies have started to come together.

## Uniform Medication Rules & Testing

There are now efforts underway at various areas in the racing world to try to develop uniform medication and uniform testing for horse racing. Several racing organizations in the United States, including the National Horsemen’s Benevolent and Protective Association, Thoroughbred Owners of California, Thoroughbred Owners and Breeders Association, California Thoroughbred Trainers, and Thoroughbred Horsemen’s Association, have developed recommendations for medication rules and drug testing.

Common themes in all of these recommendations are uniform medication rules, uniform testing, and the establishment of decision levels and withdrawal times for certain medications. Representatives of many racing groups, including these organizations, met at the American Association of Equine Practitioners Medication Summit in Tucson during the University of Arizona Racing Symposium last December to begin a dialogue on uniformity. This group is now known as the Racing Medication and Testing Consortium and is moving forward.

Presentations concerning medication and the sensitivity of testing were made and discussed at a meeting of the International Federation of Horseracing Authorities in Paris, the

Asian Racing Conference in Bangkok, and at the recent International Conference of Racing Analysts and Veterinarians in Orlando.

## Devil in Details

There appears to be broad agreement that national and international harmonization and uniformity of drug rules and drug testing is desirable and should move forward. The question is, of course, how we accomplish this. The devil is in the details.

If we are to accomplish harmonization and uniformity, it will require the cooperation of all those involved: chemists, veterinarians, regulators, and horsemen. There will also have to be some compromise. It will not succeed if the groups agree that uniformity is a good thing only if such uniformity consists of the ideas and practices of our individual jurisdictions and organizations.

Decisions made in developing uniform medication rules and uniform drug testing must be based on sound scientific principles that are acceptable and affordable. However, it would be naive to think this can be accomplished without sufficient funds for the necessary research and for the increased costs of implementing new methodology, including quantification.

Exchange and sharing of information will be necessary. Most racing jurisdictions have some experience with levels and thresholds in one form or another. If we agree it is desirable to establish decision levels for certain substances, we should somehow collect this experience and knowledge in a central place to determine what information is already available, and then utilize the information to determine where new work needs to be done. Such sharing of available knowledge and new work would help maximize the use of our limited resources.

Education is an important but largely neglected part of medication control and regulation. There are a lot of misconceptions and misinformation concerning medication and racing. Part of this is probably inherent to the mystique of racing, which is often portrayed in movies and novels as being rife with mischief involving medication.

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“The level of support the industry provides for its backstretch workers is unprecedented and should serve as a model for others to follow.

Cliff Goodrich

– predominantly benefiting stable workers and others employed at California racetracks.

“California is leaps and bounds ahead of the other states when it comes to improving the lives of its backstretch workforce,” said Cliff Goodrich, chief executive officer of the California Thoroughbred Horsemen’s Foundation (CTHF).

And last year was typical of what California does every year for the health and welfare of its racetrack workers. For example, the revenue from uncollected refunds due from canceled wagers has been helping pay health-care premiums for California jockeys since 1997. That figure has increased annually, beginning with \$450,000 in 1997, up to \$680,180 in 2001, and \$884,235 for the current year.

During that same period the revenue from uncashed winning tickets averaged more than \$2 million annually for health and welfare programs for backstretch workers. These funds are allocated as a percentage of the handle wagered on each major breed. Last year this source generated \$1,572,221 for workers in the thoroughbred industry, \$130,294 for the quarter-horse industry, and \$205,455 for harness-industry workers.

## Health and Welfare for Workers

CTHF provides the health and welfare program for an estimated 7,000 eligible thoroughbred workers and their families. The non-profit foundation operates clinics at Santa Anita Park and Bay Meadows that provide medical and dental professionals (along with a part-time optometrist at Santa Anita) to service currently licensed backstretch workers and their eligible dependants. CTHF also provides financial and social programs designed to improve the quality of life in the

community of stable workers at California racetracks and training facilities.

CTHF was the single largest beneficiary of assistance last year. In addition to the \$1.57 million it received from “outs” (uncashed winning tickets), CTHF received a total of \$400,000 from Oak Tree, Charity Racing Days, and a percentage of purses from horsemen.

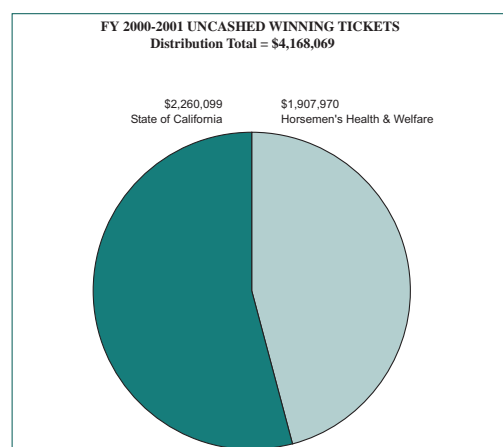
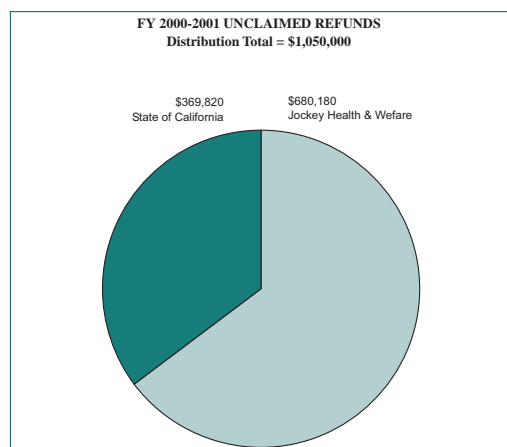
“The harsh economic conditions that make it difficult if not impossible for most horse owners to show a profit eventually work their way through the system and impact the hard-working backstretch employees, who turn to the CTHF for assistance,” explained Goodrich. “Programs such as the CTHF do not exist elsewhere in the country. The level of support the industry provides for its backstretch workers is unprecedented and should serve as a model for others to follow.

“Approximately \$2 million annually is expended by the CTHF to assist thousands of workers in medical care, dental care, prescription costs, meal vouchers, bereavement, and other forms of financial assistance.

“Years ago thoroughbred horsemen, in statute, agreed to assist CTHF by providing that 1% of gross purse money generated at each live racing fair shall accrue to CTHF. This has provided us with about \$135,000 annually and has remained fairly stable. Historically, race tracks and/or their charity foundations have supported CTHF to the tune of about \$50,000 annually.

“Outs tickets clearly are our primary source. However, CTHF is unfortunately aligned with the declining portion of the business – handle on live racing. Since CTHF receives no intrastate, interstate, or out-of-country outs money, our funding in this area is declining.

“These sources, while badly needed, were not enough to



This health insurance gives the average, hard-working, risk-taking jockey the coverage and peace of mind that he or she needs, requires, and deserves.”

Chris McCarron

keep CTHF anywhere near the break-even point in annual income, especially with spiraling healthcare costs,” continued Goodrich. “Therefore, in the period beginning with Del Mar in 2001 through the Hollywood spring meet in 2002, the Thoroughbred Owners of California (TOC) and all thoroughbred associations in the state, through their charity foundations, assisted CTHF on a one-time basis.

“Basically, CTHF forecast about a \$250,000 shortfall in income for its 2001-2002 fiscal year. First, the TOC agreed to the conduct of a “Race Per Meet” for the benefit of CTHF. This is authorized in statute but had never been utilized. The TOC agreed to deduct about \$110,000 from the purse schedule at all thoroughbred associations to accrue to CTHF.

“Working independently with the tracks, CTHF encouraged the tracks’ respective charity foundations to collectively approach the donation made by the horsemen. They did so and this past year we received a like amount from the tracks through their charity boards. This helped CTHF a great deal and both the horsemen and tracks should be saluted for the generous support in a time of need.”

### Night Industries Included

The California Harness Horsemen’s Association uses its portion of the outs revenue to pay premiums for Kaiser healthcare coverage for harness workers and for a chaplaincy program in the backstretch, according to CHHAA Executive Secretary Alan Horowitz, who also serves as executive vice president of the Capitol Racing Association.

“Our workers have a \$40 co-pay and they pay \$5 per visit,” explained Horowitz. “We’ve got people with high blood pressure, heart problems, and other serious medical conditions who are receiving excellent care that they would not have without this program.

“Our revenue from outs ebbs and flows each year. During the ebbs, Capitol has contributed to the health and welfare

fund to keep the premiums steady. This stability has been useful for our people.”

The Quarter Horse Benevolent Charity Foundation has a third approach to providing health care to workers in the quarter-horse industry.

“We send our grooms and trainers to medical offices where we have in-house accounts,” explained Nancy Brookfield, the foundation’s business manager. “They receive medical care for free. We pay for visits, prescriptions, even surgeries – all kinds of medical expenses.

“Once a week we have a dentist come to our fully equipped dental office here at Los Alamitos. Dental care requires a co-pay, but not much. It costs patients 50 cents for an X-ray, \$5 for a cleaning, \$10 for an extraction, and \$42 for a crown.

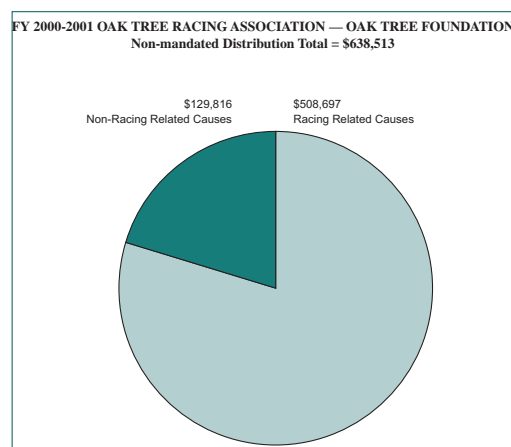
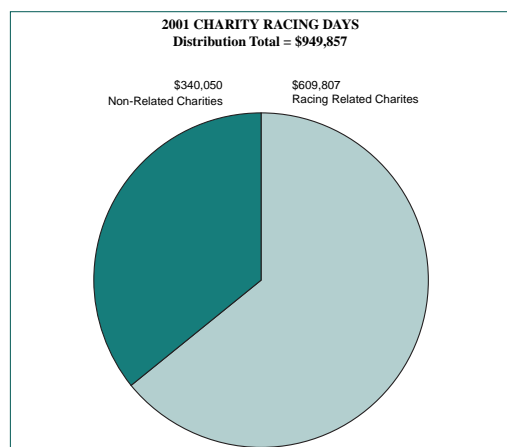
“We also have paid for a chaplain to come to the track three days a week. Through the generosity of Dr. Ed Allred (owner of Los Alamitos) and Pacific Coast (horsemen), we are expanding that to five days a week.”

### Provides for Jockey Health Care

The Horse Racing Law provides for a health and welfare program for California jockeys and their dependents that is funded by uncashed refund tickets – from the failure by fans to turn in pari-mutuel tickets for scratched horses and canceled wagers and races.

This year the California Horse Racing Board approved a 30-percent increase in funding for the health and welfare program for California jockeys by allocating \$884,235 to help cover increased costs for health insurance, dental insurance, vision benefits, and monthly payments to disabled riders.

Chris McCarron, who recently retired from riding but continues to represent the Jockeys’ Guild in various matters, explained to the CHRB that California is one of only two states that provide a meaningful funding mechanism to help sub-



dize the cost of health insurance for jockeys. The other is Delaware.

Jockeys in California still pay premiums for health insurance, but the state allocation reduces their premiums. The Jockeys' Guild administers the program. To be eligible for the California subsidy, a jockey must ride at least 100 mounts in a calendar year, at least 50 of which must be in California. Currently 110 jockeys participate in the program. California jockeys also have completely separate coverage for catastrophic injuries.

"This (uncashed refunds) money is a huge, huge help," said McCarron. "One of the biggest misconceptions in the industry is that a lot of jockeys are very wealthy, when in fact it's a small percentage of jockeys who make a substantial living. The top 100 jockeys in the country take down 80 percent of the available purses. There are currently 19 California

jockeys who are in the top 100 nationally. That leaves 91 riders who find providing adequate health and medical coverage for themselves and their dependents a very difficult situation indeed. But once again, California has taken the lead by providing this needed subsidy, and for that we are very grateful.

"The horse-racing industry is a tremendous revenue resource for the State of California, and jockeys are an important participant in that court – the ones who take the most physical risk. This health insurance gives the average, hard-working, risk-taking jockey the coverage and peace of mind that he or she needs, requires, and deserves."



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## CHARITY

(Continued from page 1)

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The Edwin J. Gregson Foundation, which improves the lives of backstretch workers and their families with welfare, recreation, and education programs, received \$90,000 from three foundations. A \$70,000 donation from the Los Angeles Turf Club (LATC) helped the Gregson Foundation maintain the recreation hall located in the Santa Anita stable area. Of the more than 200 donations made by all of the racetracks for the year, this \$70,000 was the largest single donation to one organization.

The Winners Foundation, an organization that helps race-track workers and their families deal with problems associated with alcohol and drug abuse, received a total of \$85,000 from the six racetrack foundations.

The California councils of the Race Track Chaplaincy of America received \$70,000 for the work of chaplains at every racetrack and training facility in the state. LATC also gave \$15,000 to Holy Angels Church for a similar purpose.

The Shoemaker Foundation received \$40,000, including \$30,000 from Hollywood Park Racing Charities. The Shoemaker Foundation assists anyone in the horse-racing industry suffering from a major illness or injury.

The UC Davis Center for Equine Health received a total of \$32,500 from the foundations for research and education programs focused on the health and welfare of the horse, while the Don MacBeth Memorial Jockey Fund, a national organization that assists disabled riders, received \$32,500.

Other racing-related beneficiaries included the California Equine Retirement Foundation (\$17,000), California Thor-

oughbred Breeders Foundation (\$15,000), Grayson-Jockey Club Research Foundation (\$15,000), California Council on Problem Gambling (\$13,100), Tranquility Farm (\$12,500), University of Arizona Racetrack Industry Program (\$10,000), NTRA Charities-Racehorse Adoption Program (\$10,000), Kids to the Cup (\$9,500), and Piedra Foundation (\$5,000).

### Community Charities Also Benefit

Even after earmarking so much money to racing-related causes, the various foundations still distributed \$340,050 to other traditional charitable organizations. These tended to be donations ranging from \$1,000 to \$5,000 to numerous orga-

nizations in their own communities for a wide range of activities. For example, Hollywood Park donated \$2,500 to the Inglewood After School Program. The Oak Tree Charitable Foundation gave \$2,000 to the Methodist Hospital Foundation. Golden Gate gave \$2,000 to the Schools and Citizens of Albany to Rescue Education. The Bay Meadows Foundation donated \$2,500 to the Coastside Adult Health Care Center. The Del Mar Thoroughbred Club gave \$5,000 to

San Diego Hospice. And LATC donated \$3,000 to the Arcadia Public Library Foundation.

Donating money to worthwhile causes is nothing new for California racetracks. In fact, the California Horse Racing Law has required it ever since voters approved pari-mutuel wagering in 1933. The statute requires each racing association to designate three or five days of its meet on which the

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Racing Days throughout  
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net proceeds are distributed to charities that meet the statutory criteria and are approved by the California Horse Racing Board.

All of those Charity Racing Days throughout the year at the various racetracks add up to about one month of racing programs that are being run for the benefit of charities. In recent decades, those Charity Racing Days have been generating about \$1 million a year. California racetracks have collectively distributed an estimated \$50 million to charities since 1933.

#### OAK TREE CHARITY DAYS PROCEEDS

American Cancer Fund for Children, Inc. Los Angeles	\$2,000
American Red Cross, Arcadia Chapter	1,000
Arcadia Child Health Council	1,000
Arcadia Community Coordinating Council	2,000
Arcadia Educational Fund	1,000
Arcadia Presbyterian Lay Counseling Center	1,000
Arcadia Public Library Foundation	1,000
Big Brothers of Greater Los Angeles, Inc. L.A.	2,000
Bishop Gooden Home, Pasadena	1,000
Boys and Girls Club of Pasadena	1,000
California Equine Retirement Foundation	5,000
California Rangers, Inc., La Canada	1,000
California Thoroughbred Horsemen's Foundation, Inc.	20,000
Canine Companions, Oceanside	1,000
Don Bosco Technical Institute, Rosemead	1,000
Don MacBeth Memorial Jockey Fund	2,000
Eaton Canyon Foundation, Pasadena	1,000
Family Counseling Services of W. San Gabriel	500
Five Acres, Boys and Girls Aid Society, Altadena	2,000
Friends of Literacy & Libraries Foundation	1,000
Grace Center, Pasadena	1,000
Hillside Home for Children, Pasadena	1,000
Holy Angels School	1,000
I Have A Dream Foundation, Los Angeles	1,000
Kidspace Museum, Pasadena	500
Los Angeles Arboretum Foundation	1,000
Los Angeles Orphanage Guild, Rosemead	1,000
Make A Wish Foundation, Pasadena	1,000
Marianne Frostig Center, Pasadena	1,000
Methodist Hospital Foundation	2,000
Pasadena Day Nursery for Child Development	1,000
Pasadena Hospital Association	1,000
Pasadena Humane Society	2,000
Pasadena Jr. Chamber of Commerce	1,000
Pasadena Mental Health Association	1,000
Pasadena Senior Center	1,000
Racetrack Chaplaincy of America, So. CA Council	8,000
REINS Therapeutic Horsemanship Program, Bonsall	2,000
Rosemary Children's Services, Pasadena	1,000
Salvation Army, Los Angeles	1,000
San Gabriel Valley Learning Centers, Pasadena	1,000
San Gabriel Valley Special Olympics, Temple City	1,000
Santa Anita Family YMCA, Monrovia	1,000
Shoemaker Foundation	5,000
Stone Soup Child Care Programs, Encino	1,000
United Pegasus Foundation	1,000
Winners Foundation	10,000
<b>Total Contributions</b>	<b>\$97,000</b>

The law also requires that at least 20 percent of the proceeds be distributed to racing-related charities, and that could increase next year. While recognizing the worthwhile nature of all charitable organizations favored by the racetracks, the CHRB encourages the foundations to exceed the minimum percentage to racing-related charities. Most of the racetracks do exceed this number. LATC led the way last year by earmarking 86 percent of its distribution to racing-related charities. Del Mar set aside 74 percent for this purpose. Golden Gate donated 70 percent to racing charities. The figures for Oak Tree and Hollywood Park both were approximately 54 percent. The Bay Meadows Foundation, which is completely independent from the racetrack's ownership and management, went strictly by the letter of the law with 20 percent.

#### HOLLYWOOD PARK CHARITY RACING DAYS PROCEEDS

Actors and Others for Animals	\$2,000
California Council on Problem Gambling	2,000
California Thoroughbred Breeders Foundation	5,000
California Thoroughbred Horsemen's Foundation	31,000
Centinela Valley Juvenile Diversion Project	2,500
Childrens Bureau of Southern California	2,500
Children's Dental Center of Inglewood	5,000
Don MacBeth Memorial Jockey Fund	16,000
Greater Los Angeles Zoo Association	2,500
Inglewood After School Program	2,500
Inglewood Recreation Department	2,500
Inglewood Neighborhood Housing Services	2,500
Inglewood Senior Citizens Center	2,500
International Life Services	10,000
Los Angeles Metro Special Olympics	5,000
Los Angeles Regional Foodbank	2,000
Los Angeles NAACP	7,500
Los Angeles Urban League	7,500
McCobb Ministries	1,000
Meals on Wheels	5,000
NTRA Charities-Race Horse Adoption Program	5,000
Oak Street School	2,500
100 Black Men of America	1,000
One World	1,000
Operation Hope	3,000
Pet Orphans Fund	1,000
Race Track Chaplaincy of America	8,500
Sabriya's Castle of Fun Foundation	4,000
Saint Margaret's Center	5,000
Salesian Boys and Girls Club	2,500
Salvation Army	3,000
Santa Marta Hospital	5,000
Shoemaker Foundation	30,000
Southern California Special Olympics	5,000
Tranquility Farm	7,500
UC Davis Center for Equine Health	2,500
Villa Scalabrini	2,500
Watts/Willowbrook Boys and Girls Club	2,500
Winners Foundation	20,600
YMCA of Metropolitan Los Angeles	3,500
<b>Total Contributions</b>	<b>\$232,100</b>

## Oak Tree Especially Generous

Oak Tree differs from the other racing associations in that it has three sources of funding for its charitable donations. In addition to Charity Racing Days, Oak Tree has an endowed charitable foundation. Furthermore, the Oak Tree Racing Association itself, which runs a meet at Santa Anita Park each fall, earmarks its profits to worthwhile causes. The Oak Tree board decides how to distribute money from all three funding sources, according to Oak Tree Executive Vice President Sherwood Chillingworth, who said over 76 percent of

### PACIFIC RACING ASSOCIATION CHARITY DAYS PROCEEDS

Albany Community Foundation	\$2,500
YMCA Berkeley/Albany	2,500
California Council on Problem Gambling	1,000
California Thoroughbred Horsemen's Foundation	10,000
Clausen House	1,000
Community Learning Services	2,500
Edwin J. Gregson Foundation	5,000
Friends of Albany Seniors	2,500
Friends of the Alameda County Library	2,500
Kids to the Cup	2,000
Pacific Institute for Community Organization	2,500
Race Track Chaplaincy of America	10,000
San Mateo Expo	800
Schools & Citizens of Albany to Rescue Education	2,000
San Francisco Enterprise High School Fund	1,000
UC Davis Center for Equine Health	3,000
Winners Foundation	13,000
<b>Total Contributions</b>	<b>\$63,800</b>

### DEL MAR CHARITY DAYS PROCEEDS

California Equine Retirement Foundation	\$10,000
California Thoroughbred Breeders Foundation	5,000
California Thoroughbred Horsemen's Foundation	15,707
Children's Hospital of San Diego	5,000
County Friends	5,000
Del Mar Foundation	5,000
Don Diego Scholarship Fund	5,000
Don MacBeth Memorial Jockey Fund	10,000
Edwin J. Gregson Foundation	15,000
Grayson-Jockey Club Research Foundation	15,000
Helen Woodward Animal Center	2,500
Junior League of San Diego	5,000
Kids to the Cup	2,500
Las Patronas	5,000
NTRA Charities-Racehorse Adoption Program	5,000
San Diego Hospice	5,000
Shoemaker Foundation	5,000
UC Davis Center for Equine Health	20,000
University of Arizona Race Track Industry Program	10,000
United Way of San Diego County	5,000
Winners Foundation	10,000
YMCA Magdalena Ecke (No. County)	5,000
<b>Total Contributions</b>	<b>\$170,707</b>

the combined money goes to equine-related activities.

"We receive thousands of requests, and almost all of them are very worthwhile, so it's difficult to say no to any of them," said Chillingworth. "We require everyone to fill out a grant form on which they describe their activities, list the members of their board, and generally explain why they need the money.

"We have priorities. First we focus on equine-related functions, secondly on San Gabriel Valley-based charities. Then we go to some national charities. Our fourth category includes charities that members of our board are particularly familiar with.

"Generally speaking, for non-equine-related charities, we only keep them on the list for two years, then drop them for at least a year in order to give others a chance to rotate around. Believe me, it is difficult to tell someone you've been sending money to that they are going offline for a while, but it's something we have to do in order to treat as many recipients as equitably as possible."

Looking at the entire picture of Oak Tree's charitable contributions, Charity Racing Days is the smallest segment. Proceeds from the race-meet operation that went to charitable causes exceeded \$320,000 last year, while the Oak Tree

### LOS ANGELES TURF CLUB CHARITY DAYS PROCEEDS

Arcadia Community Coordinating Council	\$1,000
Arcadia Public Library Foundation	3,000
Arcadia White Christmas	1,000
Boys and Girls Club of the Foothills	1,000
California Council on Problem Gambling	10,000
California Equine Retirement Foundation	2,000
California Thoroughbred Breeders Foundation	5,000
California Thoroughbred Horsemen's Foundation	45,000
Christopher Burrows Memorial Scholarship Fund	1,000
Church of the Good Shepherd, Pasadena	250
Community Media of the Foothills	1,000
Don MacBeth Memorial Jockey Fund	3,500
Edwin J. Gregson Foundation	70,000
Five Acres Foundation, Altadena	5,000
Holy Angels Church	17,500
Holy Angels School	2,500
Int. Conference of Racing Analysts and Veterinarians	2,500
Junior League of Pasadena	5,000
Kidspace Museum	5,000
Kids to the Cup	5,000
Los Angeles Arboretum Foundation	5,000
Piedra Foundation	5,000
Race Track Chaplaincy of America (councils)	37,500
Thoroughbred Adoption and Retirement Association	2,000
Tranquility Farm	5,000
UC Davis Center for Equine Health	7,000
United Pegasus Foundation	2,500
West San Gabriel Valley Boys and Girls Club	1,000
Winners Foundation	25,000
Young and Healthy	5,000
<b>Total Contributions</b>	<b>\$281,250</b>

Foundation distributed nearly \$318,000 from its endowment. The \$97,000 from Charity Racing Days brought the total to \$735,513.

Chillingworth provided a 10-year review of Oak Tree's charitable activities. The race-meet operation has generated nearly \$6 million for industry, non-industry, and local charitable causes since 1992. The Foundation has donated approximately \$1.7 million since its first distribution in 1995. And Charity Racing Days have provided about \$1.6 million. The 10-year total is \$9,259,705.

The vast sums provided by the race-meet operation and Foundation have allowed Oak Tree to be innovative and generous. In addition to an extensive list of traditional charitable

causes both within and outside of the horse-racing industry, Oak Tree directors have helped launch new programs by providing seed money when it was most needed. For example, Oak Tree pledged \$1 million to help found the National Thoroughbred Racing Association. And Oak Tree was among the original contributors (\$50,000) to the NTRA Drug Program.




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## JENSEN (Continued from page 5)

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Part of this misconception is also because we live in a "medication society." By this I am not only referring to illegal drugs, but rather to the numerous prescription and over-the-counter drugs available today. If we were to believe the pharmaceutical company ads and commercials that we are constantly bombarded with, there is a pill or potion or herbal remedy that will cure whatever it is that ails us. This thinking has been extended to the horse-racing industry.

Considerable misinformation comes from racing participants themselves for various reasons. Whenever an individual owner or trainer begins a winning streak, backstretch gossip has that individual using some new super medication that "does not show" (medication not detectable in a post-race test). This gossip rapidly and easily reaches the public.

We have been conducting year-round racing in this country for the past 20 or 25 years, which has led to utilizing medication in place of rest and recuperation. We now have a generation or two of trainers and veterinarians that know of no other way. In some instances, the use of therapeutic medication has become automatic and trivialized without much thought given to whether or not the medication is necessary or to consideration of the long-term effect.

The road to uniformity will be long and difficult, and past performances of previous attempts at uniformity are not all that encouraging. However, that should not keep the racing industry from working toward the goal of uniformity, as it will benefit everyone. There will not be 100-percent agreement of all issues, but this should not prevent us from moving forward.

And finally, in all of our discussion and deliberations, we should not forget our friend the horse. If we try to do what is right for the horse, our efforts will be correct.



### BAY MEADOWS FOUNDATION CHARITY DAYS PROCEEDS

Blind Babies Foundation	\$2,500
California Council on Problem Gambling	2,100
California Thoroughbred Horsemen's Foundation	6,300
Canada College	2,000
Child Care Coordinating Council	2,500
Coastside Adult Health Care Center	2,500
College of Notre Dame	1,000
College of San Mateo	2,000
Coyote Point Museum	1,000
Good Shepherd Gracenter Program	1,000
Guide Dogs for the Blind	2,000
Independent Living Resource Center	1,500
Jewish Home	1,500
John's Closet	1,000
Kainos	2,000
Meals on Wheels Program	1,000
Mercy High School, Burlingame	2,500
Mid-Peninsula Boys and Girls Club	10,000
Notre Dame High School	2,000
Our Lady of Mount Carmel School	1,000
Performing Arts for Youth Society	1,000
Poplar Recare	7,000
Race Track Chaplaincy of America (northern council)	6,300
Raphael House	2,000
Redwood City Police Activities League	2,000
Rose Resnick Lighthouse	1,000
Saint Anthony-Immaculate Conception School	1,000
Saint James School	1,000
Saint Luke's Hospital Foundation	1,000
Saint Vincent De Paul Society	1,000
Samaritan House	7,000
San Carlos Adult Day Center	1,000
San Francisco Senior Center	1,000
San Mateo County Historical Association	1,000
Senior Coastsiders	2,500
Shelter Network	4,500
Sitike Counseling Center	1,000
Skyline College	2,000
VNA and Hospice Foundation	3,000
Winners Foundation	6,300
Women/Es Recovery Association	1,500
Youth and Family Assistance	2,500
<b>Total Contributions</b>	<b>\$105,000</b>

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